

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/801,979

Examiner

Qi Han

Applicant(s)

SU ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 07/05/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10, 13-20 and 25-30.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to the applicant's amendment dated 07/05/2005.

Applicant amended claim 1 (see page 3, also see the examiner's amendment regarding claims 1, 13 and 25 below).

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see amendment, filed 07/05/2005, with respect to the rejection of claims 1-10, 13-20 and 25-30, have been fully considered.

The examiner withdraws the claim rejection because applicant made amendment (including authorized examiner's amendment, see below) and clarification (see amendment: pages 11-20).

Examiner's Amendment

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was proved by the applicant's representative, Samuel A. Kassatly, through a telephone call on 09/22/2005. The Examiner's Amendment is as following:

In the Claims (see the amendment filed 07/05/2005):

Claim 1, page 3, line 11 of the claim, after “more candidate logographic characters”, insert --by visibly emphasizing the candidate logographic characters--.

Claim 13, page 5, line 3 of the claim, replace “initial characters of a” with --initial Pinyin characters representing a--;

line 7 of the claim, after “one or more candidate”, insert -- logographic--;

line 10 of the claim, after “one or more candidate”, insert -- logographic--;

line 12 of the claim, replace “more candidate characters by tracking” with --more candidate logographic characters by visibly emphasizing the candidate logographic characters and by tracking--.

Claim 25, page 7, line 4 of the claim, replace “initial characters of a” with --initial Pinyin characters representing a--;

line 6 of the claim, after “one or more candidate”, insert -- logographic--;

line 11 of the claim, after “one or more candidate”, insert -- logographic--;

line 12 of the claim, after “characters”, insert --by visibly emphasizing the candidate logographic characters--.

-----End of Examiner's Amendment-----

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-10, 13-20 and 25-30 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent **claims 1, 13 and 25**, the instant application is directed to a method, apparatus (system) and computer program product having executable instruction codes for accelerating text entry of a logographic based language. Each independent claim, combining certain well known features in the art, identifies the uniquely distinct features of: typing at least some initial Pinyin characters presenting a logographic based text; based on the user's eye natural looking position, pre-selecting one or more candidate logographic characters by visibly emphasizing the candidate logographic characters, without requiring deliberate staring at the pre-selected one or more candidate logographic characters (which does not require a reliable identification of a region/item), in order to select the target logographic character; and selecting the target logographic character from among the one or more pre-selected candidate logographic characters by multiplexing the user's eye natural looking position and a single confirmation input command.

The prior art of record, Forest et al. (US 5,999,895), Chen (US 6,014,615), Cruyningen (US 5,805,167), provided numerous teachings and alternative approaches for entering Chinese by using Pin Yin coding method that enters phonetic units, providing conventional eye gazing system including dwelling on selectable region on display, using graphic interface to displaying Pinyin character and Chinese (logographic) characters on specific sections of the display, and combining eye-tracking mechanism with other input devices to trigger particular event and using visually highlighting item on the display. However, the above combined features, including

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based on the user's eye natural looking position, pre-selecting one or more candidate logographic characters by visibly emphasizing the candidate logographic characters, without requiring deliberate staring at the pre-selected one or more candidate logographic characters (which does not require a reliable identification of a region/item, see amendment: pages 19-20), are not anticipated by, nor made obvious over the prior art of the record.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

6. Please address mail to be delivered by the United States Postal Service (USPS) as follows:

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P.O. Box 1450
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Or: 571-273-8300, (for informal or draft communications, and please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

If no Mail Stop is indicated below, the line beginning Mail Stop should be omitted from the address.

Effective January 14, 2005, except correspondence for Maintenance Fee payments, Deposit Account Replenishments (see 1.25(c)(4)), and Licensing and Review (see 37 CFR 5.1(c) and 5.2(c)), please address correspondence to be delivered by other delivery services (Federal Express (Fed Ex), UPS, DHL, Laser, Action, Purolater, etc.) as follows:

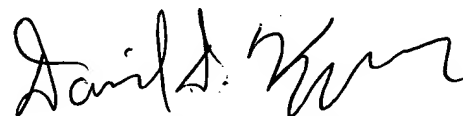
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Qi Han whose telephone numbers is (571) 272-7604. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richemond Dorvil, can be reached on (571) 272-7602.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Inquiries regarding the status of submissions relating to an application or questions on the Private PAIR system should be directed to the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free) or 703-305-3028 between the hours of 6 a.m. and midnight Monday through Friday EST, or by e-mail at: ebc@uspto.gov. For general information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

QH/qh
September 22, 2005



DAVID D. KNEPPER
PRIMARY EXAMINER